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## Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

According to one preferred embodiment, the  $A_3RAg$  is a nucleoside derivative of the general formula (IV):

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_4\underline{R_5}$  are as defined above, and physiologically acceptable salts of said compound.